(b) how much quantity is utilised and how much is wasted;

(c) what is the position regarding Maharashtra; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to have a water transport or linking of the major rivers such as Ganga-Cauvery or Ganga-Brahmaputra-Cauvery etc. for the purpose of water transport or to increase the national irrigation potential?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) The estimated surface water potential of the country is about 180 million hectare meters of which about 70 million hectare meters is reckoned as utilisable and over 45 per cent of this is being actually utilised. The utilisable ground water is about 42 million hectare meters and the present utilisation is nearly a fourth of it.

(c) Regarding Maharashtra utilisable ground water resource is about 3.4 million hectare meters of which about 20 per cent being utilised. Such estimates in respect of surface water are not maintained.

(d) A National Perspective for water resources development has been formulated envisaging transfer of surplus water to deficit areas by inter-linking of rivers and construction of storages The perspective has two components and its peninsular rivers development component is under study by an organisation set up for this purpose.

3233 *[Transferred to the 10th December,* 1987]

Nationalisation of Textile Industry

3234 SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an official report has been submitted to the Prime Minister proposing for the nationalisation of the textile industry; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and Prime Minister's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Issues to be discussed with the E.E.C. Commission

3235. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several economic issues including heavy trade deficit faced by India are to be discussed with the Commissioner of European Economic Community (EEC) Mr. Claude Cheysson; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) The proposed visit of the EEC Commissioner to India has been postponed until a new schedule is determined as per mutual convenience.

Incentives to Export Firms

3236 SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry of India has suggested to Government to initiate a scheme to grant special facilities to the award winning export firms so as to provide them sufficient encouragement to increase foreign exchange earnings; and

(b) if so what is Government's reaction thereto?